

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: SHUM, SOCI
SUBJECT: 64TH ECOSOC--DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM
AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (AGENDA ITEM 3) AND HUMAN
RIGHTS (AGENDA ITEM 11), APRIL 24TH DELIBERATIONS

1. SUMMARY: APRIL 24 ECOSOC MEETINGS CONSIDERED AGENDA
ITEMS ON RACISM (MORNING MEETING) AND HUMAN RIGHTS (AFTER-
NOON). HIGHLIGHT OF PRESENTATIONS ON RACISM WAS ABSENCE
OF VITUPERATION TOWARD ISRAEL AND NON-MENTION OF RESOLU-
TION 3379. END SUMMARY.

2. MORNING SESSION BEGAN AS UAE DELEGATE DECLARED HIS
COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTION CONTAINS NO RACIST PROVISIONS.
UKRAINIAN SPEECH NOTED FOCUS OF ATTENTION AND ACTIVITIES
ON SOUTH AFRICA DURING PAST YEAR. HE CRITICIZED TRANS-
NATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND IMPERIALIST NATIONS (WHO
CONDEMN APARTHEID IN WORDS BUT SUPPORT IT IN DEEDS) FOR
AIDING, COOPERATING WITH, AND STRENGTHENING THE REGIME
THERE. HE ACCUSED GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA OF TRYING
STILL TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONRY. SUDAN ANNOUNCED IN-
TENTION OF OPENING AN AFRICAN LIBERATION CENTER IN
KHARTOUM TO ACT AS AN INFORMATION CENTER FOR LIBERATION
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MOVEMENTS. NETHERLANDS AND GREECE EACH FOCUSED ON THEIR
OWN ACTIVITIES TO OPPOSE APARTHEID AND PROMOTE WELFARE
OF APARTHEID VICTIMS. BANGLADESH SPEECH COMBINED CON-
CEPTS OF STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM WITH STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS AND QUOTED LIBERALLY FROM PAST PUBLIC SPEECHES OF
GENERAL ZIA SUPPORTING PALESTINIAN CAUSE. ARGENTINA
NOTED THEIR SUBMISSION OF A SEPARATE, EXTENSIVE REPORT

ON THEIR STRUGGLE TO COMBAT RACISM AND APARTHEID. CUBAN DELEGATE VIGOROUSLY DENOUNCED POLICIES OF GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND EMPHASIZED CUBA'S HELP TO AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS. CUBANS ALSO CRITICIZED ZIONIST PRACTICES IN MIDDLE EAST, SYMPATHIZED WITH PLIGHT OF PUERTO RICANS, AND BEMOANED SINS VISITED ON CHICANOS IN THE US. TUNISIAN DELEGATE ANTICIPATED GOOD THINGS TO COME FROM NEXT GENEVA CONFERENCE WHICH HE HOPED WOULD ADOPT SPECIFIC MEASURES TO END RACISM IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. MAURITANIAN SPEECH PREDICTABLY CALLED FOR ISOLATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIMES AND ISRAEL, AND CRITICIZED TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS FOR SUPPORTING THESE REGIMES. JAMAICA REPORTED ON THEIR NATIONAL POLICIES THAT OBTAIN RACISM. POLISH DELEGATE EXPLAINED THAT SOCIALISM PRECLUDES RACISM AND SO DOES POLAND'S EXPERIENCES UNDER THE NAZIS. IRAQI SPEECH ENDED CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM ON RACISM. THIS TALK CONDEMNED SUPPORTERS OF RACIST REGIME IN PALESTINE AND PAID LIP SERVICE TO CRITICISM OF REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF RESOLUTION 3379 AND TONE OF REMARKS ABOUT ISRAEL, EVEN BY ARAB DELEGATIONS, WAS VERY MODERATE.

3. AFTERNOON SESSION BEGAN WITH ROMANIAN TALK ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CALLING FOR MORE ATTENTION TO BE PAID TO THE PLIGHT OF MIGRANT WORKERS. TANZANIAN DELEGATE
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CRITICIZED SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIMES FOR THEIR RACIST AND COLONIALIST POLICIES, STRONGLY EMPHASIZING ECONOMIC NEEDS OF THE POOR AND URGENCY OF INSTITUTING NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. YUGOSLAV DELEGATE NOTED ECONOMIC RIGHTS ARE THE KEY TO REACHING THE POINT WHERE POLITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS ARE POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THE LACK OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR PALESTINIANS, SOUTHERN AFRICANS, AND CHILEANS. HE CALLED ON BETTER ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATION OF EXISTING BOIES AND PROCEDURES BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. INDIA REVIEWED THE COMMISSION'S YEAR, GIVING BRIEF MENTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN PALESTINE AND THE QUESTION OF RACISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OBSERVER NOTED THE USEFULNESS OF THE PAST HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION AND STRONGLY CONDEMNED INHUMAN PRACTICES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE WAS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL OF CHILE AND STATES THAT AID CHILE, AND ISRAEL. IN CONTRAST, NETHERLANDS WORRIED OVER THE PLIGHT OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HIGH UN HUMAN RIGHTS POST. CANADA WAS PLEASED WITH THE WORK OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. USSR DELEGATE ADVOCATED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONSISTENT WITH THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE. HE

BOASTED THAT THE NEW SOVIET CONSTITUTION CODIFIES ALL RIGHTS, STATING THAT AS DEMOCRACY IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT SOCIALISM, SO SOCIALISM IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT DEMOCRACY. IN ADDITION TO CRITICISM OF REGIMES IN ISRAEL, CHILE, AND SOUTH AFRICA (AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM), SOVIET DELEGATE SPOKE OUT AGAINST DEVELOPMENT OF NEUTRON BMOB. NEW ZEALAND SPOKE ABOUT THE MERIT IN REGIONAL COOPERATION TO HELP IMPLEMENT HUMAN RIGHTS IN RECOGNITION OF MUTUAL AND SHARED PROBLEMS. JAPAN SUPPORTED THE EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS THERE. SHE EXPLAINED JAPAN IS NOT ANXIOUS TO SET UP A TRUST

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FUND FOR THE RESTORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE. IN LONGEST SPEECH OF THE AFTERNOON, PHILIPPINES DELEGATE EXPLAINED HIS COUNTRY'S DEEP COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND NOTED UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES IN PHILIPPINES THAT HAVE LED TO PHILIPPINES OWN HUMAN RIGHTS TRADITIONS. HE NOTED THAT POWERFUL DEVELOPED STATES SHOULD NOT INTERFERE IN PHILIPPINES INTERNAL AFFAIRS IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS. PORTUGUESE DELEGATE REVIEWED HER COUNTRY'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES AND PAST YEAR'S HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION. HUNGARIAN DELEGATE CRITICIZED GOVERNMENTS OF ISRAEL, CHILE, AND SOUTH AFRICA. HE DOUBTED THE WISDOM OF CREATING NEW POSTS OR BODIES FOR PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WITH THAT THE SESSION CONCLUDED FOR THE DAY. YOUNG

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